

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 /066 W

----- 105998

R 300841Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5009

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, TW

SUBJECT: CCK MOVING TO CONSOLIDATE HIS CONTROL OVER THE PARTY?

REF: A. TAIPEI 2302

B. TAIPEI A-147 OF AUGUST 2, 1974

1. AN APRIL 30 EDITORIAL IN THE OFFICIAL CHUNG YANG JIH PAO HINTS THAT PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO MAY SOON MOVE TO FURTHER CONSOLIDATE HIS CONTROL OVER THE PARTY ORGANIZATION AND BEGIN THE GRADUAL ELIMINATION OF THE OLD GUARD. THE TWO MAIN POINTS IN THE EDITORIAL WERE: (1) TO "SUGGEST" THAT AN 11TH NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS BE HELD AT "AN APPROPRIATE TIME" TO CONFIRM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARTY CONSTITUTION ALL THE MAJOR MEASURES TAKEN AFTER THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT CHIANG AND (2) TO "ENCOURAGE" THE PARTY TO "STRENGTHEN" THE PARTY ORGANIZATION.

2. A NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS WOULD LAY TO REST ANY DOUBTS CONCERNING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTED REF A AND WILL RECONFIRM THE PREMIER'S CONTROL OF THE PARTY ORGANIZATION AT ITS BASIC LEVEL. (COMMENT: WE DOUBT WHETHER THE CONGRESS WILL BE CALLED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT WE EXPECT THE PREMIER WOULD AT CONFIDENTIAL

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LEAST MOVE TO FURTHER CONSOLIDATE HIS POSITION BEFORE PRESIDENT FORD'S ANTICIPATED VISIT TO PEKING IN THE LATE FALL.)

3. THE EDITORIAL'S RECOMMENDATION TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTY

ORGANIZATION EMPLOYED LANGUAGE WHICH SUGGESTS STRONG ACTION AND IS ALSO REMINISCENT OF CCK'S "MAN OF THE PEOPLE" IMAGE "FIRST THE PARTY ORGANIZATION MUST BECOME A STRONG COMBAT BODY AND THEN FULLY DEMONSTRATE ITS DEMOCRATIC STRENGTH. THE PARTY WORK MUST BE ESPECIALLY CLOSE TO THE MASSES AND MOVE DEEPLY AMONG THE PEOPLE. WE MUST WITH OUR BEST EFFORT IMPROVE ALL SHORTCOMINGS SUCH AS FORMALISM AND UNNECESSARY PAPER WORK WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN FULLY REFORMED....ALL KMT COMRADES MUST ENCOURAGE THEMSELVES TO BECOME UNKNOWN HEROES."

4. AS REPORTED IN REF B LAST YEAR, THE PREMIER HAS MOVED GRADUALLY SINCE THE LATE 1960'S TO REFORM AND CONTROL THE PARTY ORGANIZATION. WE BELIEVE HE MAY MOVE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO STRENGTHEN HIS CONTROL AT PARTY HEADQUARTERS. CHANG PAO-SHU (1728/1405/2885) WHO IS IDENTIFIED WITH THE OLD GUARD IS THE MOST OBVIOUS MAN TO MOVE. THE PREMIER WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO REPLACE HIM WITH LI HUAN (2621/3562) WHO IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS CCK'S MAN IN THE PARTY.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE CHUNG YANG JIH PAO, WHOSE PUBLISHER CHU SUNG-CH'U (2806/1516/4428) IS CLOSE TO CCK, WOULD PUBLISH SUCH AN EDITORIAL WITHOUT THE LATTER'S FULL CONCURRENCE. IN THIS CALL FOR ACTION WE MAY BE WITNESSING THE OPENING MOVE BY A GOVERNMENT NOW TOTALLY IN THE PREMIER'S HANDS TO CARRY FORWARD THOSE REFORMS FOR WHICH HE HAS PUSHED IN RECENT YARS. UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

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